



- South Carolina is the “Buckle” of the Stroke Belt in the U.S. and has a stroke mortality higher than the US average;
- Stroke mortality rates for blacks remain consistently higher than for whites (Y2001 BM:WM Relative Risk = 1.94; Y2001 BF:WF Relative Risk = 1.43);
- Men have slightly higher mortality rates than women, and the M:F relative risk has not changed between 1990 and 2001 for blacks (Y2001 BM:BF Relative Risk = 1.34). However, in 2001, the relative risk for white women was almost the same as that for white men (Y2001 WM:WF Relative Risk 1.01).